



Michigan Crop Weather

Cool and Damp

Four days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 9, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 1.97 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula to 4.93 inches in the southeastern Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from 3 degrees below normal in the western Upper Peninsula to 1 degree above normal in the southeastern Lower Peninsula. It was too wet and cool for fieldwork for much of the state towards the end of the week. Some areas in the north had snowfall. Effects of recent frost have not been fully assessed although some damage is expected. “The week started out great, but did a 180 degree turn with the rain Friday and Saturday. The rain was needed, but we did not need the freezing temperatures of this week,” a reporter in the central west region stated. Calving was proceeding well.

Field Crops

Weekend rains were welcomed, however, more rain and warmer temperatures were needed. Frosty mornings had corn and soybean growers concerned. **Wheat** progressed and was in Feekes growing stages 5 to 7. There were reports of powdery mildew, in some areas. Growers, in the Thumb, were applying Fungicide and in the southeast, herbicide spraying was complete. **Alfalfa** was growing well and ranged from 10-14 inches tall. The first cutting could begin as early as next week in the southeast, if the weather permits. **Oats** and **barley** were progressing well. Stands looked good and herbicide applications were being made in the central region of the State. **Corn** and **soybeans** planting continued, as conditions allowed. Early planted fields of each had begun to emerge. In the central region, applications of pre-emergence herbicide, on corn, occurred. Corn and soybean planting progress continued as the highest on record. Some soybeans, in the south central, have been underwater for several weeks. Growers were monitoring the progress to determine if replanting should occur. Emerged **sugarbeets** have their second leaf pair.

Fruit

Growing degree days were still about two weeks ahead of normal around the state. On Wednesday, April 28, there was another freeze. Temperatures fell into the 20's in low-lying areas, possibly reducing crop potential. **Apples** ranged from bloom in the west central to petal fall with fruit size 4 to 6 mm in diameter in the southwest and southeast. Spotted tentiform leafminer was flying, and the weekend rain increased potential for apple scab infection in the southeast and southwest. **Peaches** were at shuck in the west central, southwest, and Grand Rapids areas and were at shuck split in the southeast. European **plums** were at petal fall in the west central and northwest and at shuck split with fruit 4 to 6 mm in diameter in the southwest. **Strawberries** ranged from starting to bloom in the southwest to first bloom and 20 to 30 percent bloom in the southeast. **Sweet cherries** ranged from early shuck split and petal fall in the northwest to out of the shuck with fruit size between 8 to 12 mm in diameter in the southwest. **Tart cherries** were at petal fall in the west central, northwest, and southeast and were in the shuck and at shuck split in the southwest. **Pears** were at petal fall in the west central and northwest with fruit at about 8 mm in diameter in the southwest. Pear psylla were laying eggs in the southeast and southwest. **Blueberries** were at first bloom in the southeast and near full bloom in the southwest. **Grapes** were at late bud swell in the northwest; shoots were about three inches long and flower clusters were separating from the shoots in the southwest.

Vegetables

Overall, progress in the field was ahead of schedule. Many acres of black plastic were laid in preparation for warm season crops. Recent rains aided cole crop progress, but halted fieldwork towards the end of the week. **Onion, carrot, sweet corn, celery, lettuce, beets, parsley, peas, squash, and radish** seeding or transplanting continued. Seeded field onions emerged. **Carrots** did not make enough growth to see rows, and irrigation continued. Sweet corn, continued to emerge. **Cabbage** has been established for several weeks. Planting of **tomatoes** and **cucumbers** continued under protective tunnels. Overwintered **spinach** did well. Cutting and shipping of hothouse **rhubarb** continued. **Potatoes** were emerging in early planted fields. **Asparagus** was emerging and harvest was underway. Last week's frost damaged about half of the emerged spears in the Oceana area. **English peas** were six inches tall in southwest Michigan and still progressing.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/09/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	1	7	63	29
Subsoil	2	15	70	13

Crop condition for week ending 05/09/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Oats	0	1	30	53	16
Pasture	1	4	28	50	17
Winter Wheat	1	3	16	56	24

Crop progress for week ending 05/09/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Barley, planted	89	74	51	56
Barley, emerged	61	42	25	27
Corn, planted	75	53	16	51
Corn, emerged	25	3	0	7
Oats, planted	96	90	75	84
Oats, emerged	79	64	38	53
Soybeans, planted	35	18	4	21
Soybeans, emerged	8	2	0	NA

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/09/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	65	23		190	130		0.97	1.64	1.82	2.08		
Marquette	66	27		178	105		0.97	1.64	1.82	2.08		
Stephenson	69	23		242	168		1.15	1.35	1.46	1.96		
Western UP	69	18	-3	195	121	123	0.97	1.69	1.83	2.12	3.23	3.37
Cornell	65	28		198	138		1.06	1.11	1.11	1.49		
Sault St Marie	67	31		184	94		0.72	0.77	0.91	1.93		
Eastern UP	67	25	-1	176	101	68	1.02	1.06	1.24	1.97	3.42	3.01
Beulah	68	30		244	184		1.46	2.34	3.69	5.53		
Lake City	69	30		235	184		0.89	2.38	2.85	5.03		
Old Mission	69	32		245	146		1.45	1.94	2.20	4.53		
Pellston	67	24		232	145		1.24	1.38	1.40	2.42		
Northwest	69	24	-2	229	158	153	1.37	2.04	2.47	4.33	3.52	2.61
Alpena	74	29		224	152		1.53	1.94	1.97	3.92		
Houghton Lake	70	28		253	174		0.66	1.09	1.57	3.08		
Rogers City	73	33		204	158		1.64	1.95	1.95	3.94		
Northeast	74	28	0	239	164	140	1.14	1.59	1.82	3.55	3.47	2.76
Fremont	73	27		278	201		0.54	1.07	1.40	3.13		
Hart	71	28		248	185		0.58	0.75	0.97	3.30		
Muskegon	74	28		277	207		0.44	1.15	1.28	3.20		
West Central	74	27	-2	263	201	184	0.61	1.08	1.37	3.37	3.89	2.67
Alma	73	31		281	202		0.56	1.05	2.72	4.82		
Big Rapids	72	28		282	215		1.07	1.70	2.48	4.42		
Central	73	28	-1	282	205	204	0.65	1.20	2.21	3.84	3.97	2.79
Bad Axe	75	34		271	183		0.90	1.15	1.75	2.57		
Pigeon	74	35		275	176		0.77	1.09	1.70	2.80		
Saginaw	74	31		307	200		0.67	0.97	1.84	3.13		
Standish	73	28		270	188		0.48	1.39	2.02	3.62		
East Central	75	28	0	266	185	194	0.80	1.26	1.93	3.51	3.35	2.63
Fennville	76	29		310	221		0.35	1.40	1.65	3.16		
Grand Rapids	76	31		346	244		0.51	1.05	1.62	4.84		
Holland	76	32		341	248		0.36	0.94	1.09	3.62		
South Bend, IN	76	35		361	277		1.12	2.27	3.47	4.62		
Watervliet	77	32		332	236		0.73	1.42	1.96	3.89		
Southwest	80	29	-1	334	245	229	0.62	1.33	1.81	3.81	4.10	3.01
Belding	74	30		296	204		0.44	1.74	2.11	4.28		
Coldwater	73	33		351	261		1.04	2.25	3.87	4.37		
Lansing	73	30		337	224		1.21	1.79	1.96	4.23		
South Central	77	28	-1	321	235	230	1.10	1.84	2.56	4.31	3.92	2.92
Detroit	80	33		371	280		0.97	1.93	3.08	4.18		
Flint	73	31		329	236		1.39	2.03	2.50	5.35		
Romeo	76	31		294	223		1.13	3.69	4.35	5.84		
Tipton	74	32		337	261		1.15	2.37	4.32	4.99		
Toledo, OH	82	36		376	281		0.83	1.89	4.09	6.58		
Southeast	82	29	1	337	257	215	1.16	2.44	3.59	4.93	3.96	2.85

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.